

UNITED STATES SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR JUDICIAL NOMINEES

PUBLIC

1.     **Name:** State full name (include any former names used).

Billy Wayne Lewis, Jr.  
Bill Lewis  
William Wayne Lewis, II

2.     **Position:** State the position for which you have been nominated.

United States District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama

3.     **Address:** List current office address. If city and state of residence differs from your place of employment, please list the city and state where you currently reside.

Office:       Supreme Court of Alabama  
              300 Dexter Avenue  
              Montgomery, Alabama 36104

Residence:   Titus, Alabama

4.     **Birthplace:** State year and place of birth.

1978; Darmstadt, Germany

5.     **Education:** List in reverse chronological order each college, law school, or any other institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, whether a degree was received, and the date each degree was received.

2000 – 2003, Cumberland School of Law, Juris Doctorate, 2003

1996 – 2000, The University of the South, B.A. in economics and political science, 2000

6.     **Employment Record:** List in reverse chronological order all governmental agencies, business or professional corporations, companies, firms, or other enterprises, partnerships, institutions or organizations, non-profit or otherwise, with which you have been affiliated as an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or employee since graduation from college, whether or not you received payment for your services. Include the name and address of the employer and job title or description.

2025 – present

Alabama Supreme Court  
300 Dexter Avenue  
Montgomery, Alabama 36104  
Associate Justice

2024 – 2025  
Alabama Court of Civil Appeals  
300 Dexter Avenue  
Montgomery, Alabama 36104  
Judge

2016 – 2024  
Nineteenth Judicial Circuit  
8935 U.S. Highway 231  
Wetumpka, Alabama 36092  
Circuit Judge

2006 – 2016  
Law Office of Bill Lewis  
1007 Jackson Trace Road  
Wetumpka, Alabama 36092  
General Practitioner

2005 – 2006  
Law Office of Jeff Courtney  
1881 Holtville Road  
Wetumpka, Alabama 36092  
Associate Attorney

2004 – 2005  
Nineteenth Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office  
8935 U.S. Highway 231  
Wetumpka, Alabama 36092  
Assistant District Attorney

2003 – 2004  
Law Clerk  
Honorable John Bush  
8935 U.S. Highway 231  
Wetumpka, Alabama 36092

2002 – 2003  
AmSouth Bank  
1849 Montgomery Highway  
Birmingham Alabama 35244  
Teller

2001 – 2002  
Darrel's Restaurant and Bar  
2701 Eastern Boulevard  
Montgomery, Alabama 36117  
Server

1995 – 2003  
Walmart  
4538 U.S. Highway 231  
Wetumpka, Alabama 36092  
Stocker, floor worker

Other Affiliations:

2006 – present  
Lewis Properties, LLC  
1017 Jackson Trace Road  
Wetumpka, Alabama 36092  
Owner

2022 – present  
University of South Alabama  
307 University Boulevard, Room 130  
Mobile, Alabama 36688  
Trustee (Uncompensated)

7. **Military Service and Draft Status:** Identify any service in the U.S. Military, including dates of service, branch of service, rank or rate, serial number (if different from social security number) and type of discharge received, and whether you have registered for selective service.

I have not served in the military. I registered for the selective service upon turning 18.

8. **Honors and Awards:** List any scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships, military awards, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

Alabama Law Foundation (2025)

Alabama Family Law Section Judge of the Year (2025)

History Maker Award, Betu Nu Omega Chapter Award (2020)

Trailblazer Award (2017)

Wetumpka Herald Best Attorney Award (2019)

Montgomery Advertiser Best of the Best Award (Lawyers) (2016)

Alabama Rising Republican Star (2013)

Leadership Award, Liberty Hill Baptist Church (2009)

Merit Scholar, Cumberland School of Law (2000 – 2003)

University of the South Football 4-year letterman (1996 – 1999 ), 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Conference (1999)

Regent's Scholar, The University of the South (1996 – 2000)

Order of Gownsmen, The University of the South (1997)

9. **Bar Associations:** List all bar associations or legal or judicial-related committees, selection panels or conferences of which you are or have been a member, and give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups.

Elmore County Bar Association

President (2006)

Secretary (2005)

10. **Bar and Court Admission:**

a. List the date(s) you were admitted to the bar of any state and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership.

Alabama, 2004

Tennessee, 2004

My membership to the Tennessee Bar has been inactive since 2018. Otherwise, there have been no lapses in membership.

b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice, including dates of admission and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require special admission to practice.

Supreme Court of the United States, 2012

United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, 2011

United States District Court for the Middle District of Alabama, 2004

United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, 2004

My memberships to the courts listed above lapsed after October 2016 when I became a Circuit Judge.

11. **Memberships:**

a. List all professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, other than those listed in response to Questions 9 or 10 to which you belong, or to which you have belonged, since graduation from law school. Provide dates of membership or participation, and indicate any office you held. Include clubs, working groups, advisory or editorial boards, panels, committees, conferences, or publications.

Alabama Law Foundation, 2025 – present

Hugh Maddox Inns of Court, 2024 – present

Trustee, University of South Alabama, 2022 – present

b. The American Bar Association's Commentary to its Code of Judicial Conduct states that it is inappropriate for a judge to hold membership in any organization that invidiously discriminates on the basis of race, sex, or religion, or national origin. Indicate whether any of these organizations listed in response to 11a above currently discriminate or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies. If so, describe any action you have taken to change these policies and practices.

To the best of my knowledge, none of the organizations listed above currently discriminates or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin, either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies.

12. **Published Writings and Public Statements:**

a. List the titles, publishers, and dates of books, articles, reports, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published material you have written or edited, including material published only on the Internet. Supply copies of all published material to the Committee.

None.

b. Supply copies of any reports, memoranda or policy statements you prepared or contributed in the preparation of on behalf of any bar association, committee, conference, or organization of which you were or are a member. If you do not have a copy of a report, memorandum or policy statement, give the name and address of the organization that issued it, the date of the document, and a summary of its subject matter.

None.

c. Supply copies of any testimony, official statements or other communications relating, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, that you

have issued or provided or that others presented on your behalf to public bodies or public officials.

None.

d. Supply copies, transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered by you including commencement speeches, remarks, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions. Include the date and place where they were delivered, and readily available press reports about the speech or talk. If you do not have a copy of the speech or a transcript or recording of your remarks, give the name and address of the group before whom the speech was given, the date of the speech, and a summary of its subject matter. If you did not speak from a prepared text, furnish a copy of any outline or notes from which you spoke.

June 13, 2025: Panelist, "The Good, the Bad, the Ugly: State of the Judiciary," Alabama Association for Justice, Destin, Florida; Co-panelists, Chief Justice Sarah Stewart, Justice Chris McCool. Presentation supplied.

May 13, 2025: Speaker, "Finding Your Why" Edward Bell Technical Center, Tallapoosa County, Alabama. Presentation supplied.

May 1, 2025: Speaker, Alabama State Bar Law Day via Zoom. I spoke to students across the state about the structure of the court system and the role of a judge in the judiciary. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Alabama State Bar Association is 415 Dexter Ave, Montgomery, Alabama 36104.

February 21, 2025: Speaker, Conecuh County Republican Dinner. I spoke about the structure of the Alabama Court system and the need to follow the rule of law. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Conecuh County Republican Party is 110 Edwina Street Evergreen, Alabama 36401.

January 19, 2025: Speaker, "Alabama Courts," Madison County Men's Republican Club. I spoke about Alabama courts and my background. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The meeting address for the Madison County Men's Republican Club is the Holiday Inn, 5903 University Drive, Huntsville, Alabama 35806 and the mailing address is P.O. Box 2301, Huntsville, Alabama, 35804.

January 17, 2025: Speaker, "Bridging the Divide: From Trial Court to the Appellate Bench and an Introduction to AI and its Potential in Constitutional Law and Originalism," Federalist Society, Huntsville Chapter. Presentation supplied.

November 8, 2024: Panelist, "A View from the Appellate Bench," Panel Discussion hosted by the Montgomery County Bar Association at the Montgomery County Courthouse. I, along with my fellow panelists, Justice Greg Cook and Justice Chris McCool, spoke on the appellate process. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Montgomery County Bar Association is 251 S. Lawrence St,

Montgomery, Alabama 36104.

October 24, 2024: Speaker, "Worker's Compensation Annual Meeting," Alabama Association for Justice, Birmingham, Alabama. Notes supplied.

October 2, 2024: Speaker, Judicial Affairs Conference, Gulf Shores Lodge, Gulf Shores, Alabama. I spoke about my background, challenges, and the need to take a balanced approach to life. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Alabama Association for Justice is 532 S. Perry Street, Montgomery, Alabama 36104.

September 24, 2024: Speaker, Point Clear Republican Women, Oak Hollow Farm, Fairhope, Alabama. I spoke about the structure of the state court system and our role as judges in that state court system. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Point Clear Republican Women is Oak Hollow Farms, 14210 Greeno Road, Fairhope, Alabama 36532.

September 24, 2024: Speaker, South Baldwin Republican Women, Gift Horse Restaurant, Foley, Alabama. I spoke about the structure of the state court system and our role as judges in that state court system. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the South Baldwin Republican Women is 209 W. Laurel Ave, Foley, Alabama 36535.

August 20, 2024: Speaker, "Emerging Lawyers Lunch and Learn," Alabama Association for Justice, Birmingham, Alabama. Presentation supplied.

August 19, 2024: Speaker, Shelby County Alabama Farmers Federation Meeting, Shelby County, Alabama. Notes supplied.

June 12, 2024: Speaker, "Update on the Alabama Court of Civil Appeals." Lauderdale County Bar Association, Lauderdale County, Alabama. Presentation supplied.

May 2, 2022: Speaker, "Learning the Constitution," Pack 50 Wetumpka Boy Scouts, Wetumpka, Alabama. Presentation supplied.

January 11, 2020: Moderator "Youth Mental Health First Aid," Wetumpka, Alabama. I organized and participated in a panel with Elmore County School Board Mental Aid Specialist, Renee Blasingame, and spoke about how to identify and report issues concerning adverse juvenile mental health. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Elmore County Board of Education is 100 H. H. Robinson Drive, Wetumpka, Alabama 36092.

February 16, 2018: Speaker, "Unity and Leadership," Prattville, Alabama. I spoke about the accomplishments of Alabamians as part of the Prattville Black History Program. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Prattville Cultural Arts Society is 203 W. 4th Street, Prattville, Alabama 36066.

July 25, 2017: Speaker, "Alabama Judiciary," Wetumpka Rotary Club, Shoney's,

Wetumpka, Alabama. I discussed new laws and spoke about the role of the judiciary. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Wetumpka Rotary Club is 306 S. Main Street Wetumpka, Alabama 36092.

June 8, 2017: Speaker, "Courts, Legislative Update, and Social Media," Elmore County Board of Education, Wetumpka, Alabama. Presentation included.

May 17, 2017: Speaker, "Alabama Judiciary" Millbrook Kiwanis Club, Millbrook Alabama. I spoke about the structure of the state court system and the role of judges in the state court system. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Millbrook Kiwanis Club is 3240 Grandview Road, Millbrook, Alabama, 36054.

March 16, 2017: Speaker, "Alabama Judiciary," Prattville Lion's Club Meeting, Prattville, Alabama. I gave an introduction to the state court system and structure of courts in Alabama. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Prattville Lion's Club is Doster Center, 424 S Northington St, Prattville, Alabama 36066.

January 15, 2017: Speaker, "Wetumpka Martin Luther King Program," Wetumpka Civic Center. I introduced keynote speaker, Fred Gray. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the City of Wetumpka is 408 S. Main St, Wetumpka, Alabama 36092.

e. List all interviews you have given to newspapers, magazines or other publications, or radio or television stations, providing the dates of these interviews and copies of the clips or transcripts of these interviews where they are available to you.

*Alabama Supreme Court Justice Bill Lewis Visits Cherokee County GOP Breakfast*, WEIS radio 100.5 (July 29, 2025). Copy supplied.

Heather Knight, *Elmore County Law Day 2021: Second Graders Learn About Judicial System*, Elmore Autauga News (Sept. 24, 2021). Copy supplied.

Joyanna Love, *CCS Students Attend Law Day*, Clanton Advertiser (Apr. 12, 2019). Copy supplied.

Marty Roney, *Autauga County sheriff dabbles in painting as a hobby*, Montgomery Advertiser (Jan. 18, 2019). Copy supplied.

Amalia Kortright, *Law Day teaches local students about justice system*, Wetumpka Herald (Sept. 26, 2018). Copy supplied.

Joseph Tidwell, *Judge Bill Lewis speaks at Chamber luncheon*, Clanton Advertiser (Sept. 11, 2018). Copy supplied.

Marty Roney, *New Judge on Bench*, Montgomery Advertiser (Nov. 2, 2016). Copy supplied.



Jennifer Horton, *Lewis Sworn in as Circuit Judge in 19<sup>th</sup> Circuit* (Oct. 28, 2016). Copy supplied.

Matt Okarmus, *Grand jury gets abuse case*, Montgomery Advertiser (Dec. 18, 2013). Copy supplied.

Matt Okarmus, *Candidate not guilty in assault case*, Montgomery Advertiser (Aug. 22, 2012). Copy supplied.

Matt Okarmus, *Wetumpka council candidate arrested*, Montgomery Advertiser (Aug. 9, 2012). Copy supplied.

Marty Roney, *Elmore County home invasion suspect's parole revoked*, Montgomery Advertiser (Aug. 31, 2010). Copy supplied.

McMillan *guilty of killing Millbrook father*, Montgomery Advertiser (June 26, 2009). Copy supplied.

13. **Judicial Office:** State (chronologically) any judicial offices you have held, including positions as an administrative law judge, whether such position was elected or appointed, and a description of the jurisdiction of each such court.

2016 – 2024  
Circuit Judge  
Nineteenth Judicial Circuit

I was appointed to this position by Governor Robert Bentley and was sworn in on October 28, 2016. I ran for election in 2018 and won. In 2024, I ran unopposed for re-election. The Circuit Court is a court of general jurisdiction with original jurisdiction over felony offenses, domestic relations cases, and civil cases with controversies over \$15,000. The Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Court has appellate jurisdiction over the municipal, district, probate, and juvenile courts in Elmore, Autauga, and Chilton counties.

2024 – 2025  
Judge  
Alabama Court of Civil Appeals

I was appointed to this position by Governor Kay Ivey on February 28, 2024. The Court of Civil Appeals has exclusive appellate jurisdiction of all civil cases where the amount involved, exclusive of interest and costs, does not exceed \$50,000, all appeals from administrative agencies other than the Alabama Public Service Commission, all appeals in workers' compensation cases, all appeals in domestic relations cases, including annulment, divorce, adoption, and child custody cases and all extraordinary writs arising from appeals in said cases.

2025 – present  
Associate Justice

## Alabama Supreme Court

Governor Kay Ivey appointed me to this position on May 20, 2025. The Supreme Court has exclusive appellate jurisdiction over all cases where the amount involved exceeds \$50,000.00. It is the highest court in the State of Alabama.

a. Approximately how many cases have you presided over that have gone to verdict or judgment?

300.

i. Of these cases, approximately what percent were:

jury trials:	15%
bench trials:	85%

ii. Of these cases, approximately what percent were:

civil proceedings:	60%
criminal proceedings:	40%

b. Provide citations for all opinions you have written, including concurrences and dissents.

### Authored Opinions:

1. *K.J.P. v. B.W.P.*, Case No. CL-2024-0809, 2025 WL 1416758 (Ala. Civ. App. May 16, 2025)
2. *Alabama State Emps. Credit Union v. Jemison*, Case No. CL-2025-0004, 2025 WL 1416781 (Ala. Civ. App. May 16, 2025)
3. *B.T. v. Jefferson Cnty. Dep't of Hum. Res.*, Case No. CL-2024-0982, 2025 WL 1198701 (Ala. Civ. App. Apr. 25, 2025)
4. *Ex parte Nucor Harris Rebar S., LLC*, Case No. CL-2025-0145, 2025 WL 1085234 (Ala. Civ. App. Apr. 11, 2025)
5. *Cornelius v. Cornelius*, Case No. CL-2024-0739, 2025 WL 938570 (Ala. Civ. App. Mar. 28, 2025)
6. *Yates v. Fed. Home Loan Mortg. Corp.*, Case No. CL-2024-0811, 2025 WL 938917 (Ala. Civ. App. Mar. 28, 2025)

7. *A.T. v. W.T.*, Case No. CL-2024-0643, 2025 WL 878421 (Ala. Civ. App. Mar. 21, 2025)
8. *J.C. v. Cullman Cnty. Dep't of Hum. Res.*, Case No. CL-2024-0763, 2025 WL 878812 (Ala. Civ. App. Mar. 21, 2025)
9. *Shires Homeowners Ass'n, Inc. v. Clark*, Case No. CL-2024-0797, 2025 WL 808305 (Ala. Civ. App. Mar. 14, 2025)
10. *Nash v. Nash*, Case No. CL-2024-0651, 2025 WL 808846 (Ala. Civ. App. Mar. 14, 2025)
11. *Alonso v. Alpha Phi Int'l, Inc.*, Case No. CL-2024-0507, 2025 WL 649349 (Ala. Civ. App. Feb. 28, 2025)
12. *Parrish v. Ratliff*, Case No. CL-2024-0552, 2025 WL 663902 (Ala. Civ. App. Feb. 28, 2025)
13. *Grant v. Cooper*, Case No. CL-2024-0564, 2025 WL 569873 (Ala. Civ. App. Feb. 21, 2025)
14. *Colbert Cnty. Bd. of Educ. v. Satchel*, Case No. CL-2024-0534, 2025 WL 496485 (Ala. Civ. App. Feb. 14, 2025)
15. *Equity Tr. Co. v. Kimbrell*, Case No. CL-2024-0510, 2025 WL 350461 (Ala. Civ. App. Jan. 31, 2025)
16. *L.S.H. v. T.J.*, Case No. CL-2024-0638, 2025 WL 63485 (Ala. Civ. App. Jan. 10, 2025)
17. *Navy Fed. Credit Union v. HMC Fin. Corp.*, Case No. CL-2024-0352, 2024 WL 5176647 (Ala. Civ. App. Dec. 20, 2024)
18. *State v. Hadley*, Case No. CL-2024-0619, 2024 WL 5100741 (Ala. Civ. App. Dec. 13, 2024)
19. *Parrish v. Ratliff*, Case No. CL-2024-0552, 2024 WL 4469962 (Ala. Civ. App. Oct. 11, 2024), *reh'g denied*, No. CL-2024-0552, 2025 WL 663902 (Ala. Civ. App. Feb. 28, 2025)
20. *Whitehurst v. Whitehurst*, Case No. CL-2024-0064, 2024 WL 4395288 (Ala. Civ. App. Oct. 4, 2024)

21. *Harrison v. Marion Reg'l Nursing Home*, Case No. CL-2023-0800, 2024 WL 4311574 (Ala. Civ. App. Sept. 27, 2024)
22. *Robinson v. Robinson*, Case No. CL-2024-0074, 2024 WL 4096263 (Ala. Civ. App. Sept. 6, 2024)
23. *B.T. v. Jefferson Cnty. Dep't of Hum. Res.*, Case No. CL-2023-0944, 2024 WL 3995990 (Ala. Civ. App. Aug. 30, 2024), *cert. denied sub nom. Ex parte Jefferson Cnty. Dep't of Hum. Res.*, Case No. SC-2024-0598, 2024 WL 4469783 (Ala. Oct. 11, 2024)
24. *White v. White*, Case No. CL-2024-0081, 2024 WL 3995991 (Ala. Civ. App. Aug. 30, 2024)
25. *J.M.L. v. Tuscaloosa Cnty. Dep't of Hum. Res.*, 402 So. 3d 832 (Ala. Civ. App. 2024)
26. *Hernandez v. Rodriguez*, 402 So. 3d 255 (Ala. Civ. App. 2024)
27. *Hamilton v. Hamilton*, 401 So. 3d 1186 (Ala. Civ. App. 2024)

Concurring & Dissenting Opinions:

1. *Alabama Bd. of Heating, Air Conditioning, & Refrigeration Contractors v. Blanchard*, 406 So. 3d 847 (Ala. Civ. App. 2024), dissenting opinion.
2. *Gartrell v. Gartrell*, Case No. CL-2024-0290, 2024 WL 4522170 (Ala. Civ. App. Oct. 18, 2024), *aff'd sub nom. Ex parte Gartrell*, Case No. SC-2024-0743, 2025 WL 1776392 (Ala. June 27, 2025), dissenting opinion.
3. *E.L.C. v. N.J.C.*, Case No. CL-2024-0147, 2024 WL 4796129 (Ala. Civ. App. Nov. 15, 2024), dissenting opinion.

c. For each of the 10 most significant cases over which you presided, provide: (1) a capsule summary of the nature of the case; (2) the outcome of the case; (3) the name and contact information for counsel who had a significant role in the trial of the case; and (4) the citation of the case (if reported) or the docket number and a copy of the opinion or judgment (if not reported).

1. *State of Alabama v. Sirjames Raby*, Case No. 04-CC-2021-242:

Criminal Defendant Raby was convicted of manslaughter after getting into an argument with the victim and shooting him and the victim's brother with an AR-15 rifle. The Defendant had four prior felony convictions. Upon his conviction in this

case, I sentenced him to 50 years in prison.

Counsel for Prosecution:

Josh Cochran  
8935 US Highway 231  
Wetumpka, AL 36092  
(334) 531-9176

Defense Counsel:

Tom Azar  
10 Cambridge Court  
Wetumpka, AL 36093  
(334) 324-2386.

2. *State of Alabama v. Pamella Shelton*, Case No. 29-CC-2019-875

In this criminal case, Defendant Shelton was convicted of felony murder after her grandchild was killed as a result of Defendant's aggravated child abuse. Defendant tried to hide her daughter, the key witness in the case, to prevent her from testifying against Defendant. As a result, I struck the jury, recessed them for months while the state attempted to locate Defendant's daughter, and then reconvened the case. After Defendant was convicted, I sentenced her to life in prison.

Counsel for Prosecution:

Josh Cochran  
8935 US Highway 231  
Wetumpka, AL 36092  
(334) 567-2237

Defense Counsel:

Jennifer Holton  
[address not listed]  
(334) 782-6848

3. *State of Alabama v. Keon Cain*, Case No. 04-CC-2018-111

In this case, Defendant Keon Cain was a part of a robbery at barbershop on July 4, 2017. Cain and a codefendant made entry into the barbershop where the codefendant shot and killed two men by bashing them with cinderblocks. Cain used a shotgun to kill a third victim, who was injured by gunshot and trying to escape to safety. After lengthy litigation, both defendants ultimately plead guilty via plea agreement. I sentenced Defendant Cain to life in prison, without the possibility of parole.

Counsel for Prosecution:

Josh Cochran  
8935 US Highway 231  
Wetumpka, AL 36092  
(334) 567-2237

Defense Counsel:

Tom Azar  
10 Cambridge Court  
Wetumpka, AL 36093  
(334) 324-2386

4. *State of Alabama v. Cecil Green*, Case No. 29-CC-2020-495

In this criminal case, Defendant Green killed a man when he shot the man in the back after engaging in a verbal altercation regarding a woman. Defendant Green was convicted and I sentenced Defendant to 26 years in prison.

Counsel for Prosecution:

Caroline Blaylock  
500 2nd Ave N, #221  
Clanton, AL 35045  
(334) 567-2237

Defense Counsel:

Tom Azar  
10 Cambridge Court  
Wetumpka, AL 36093  
(334) 324-2386

5. *Headley v. Headley*, Case No. 14-DR-2019-000097

This domestic litigation involved a contentious dispute over child custody and the distribution of assets. After lengthy litigation, I entered an order dividing property and assets as equitably as possible. My order also attempted to give both parents as much time as possible with their children. My judgment was affirmed on appeal in *Headley v. Headley*, 389.S0.3d 1169 (Ala.Civ.App. 2022).

Counsel:

James Cooper  
312 Scott St  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
(334) 262-4887

Tina Moon  
143 1st St.  
Prattville, AL 36067  
(334) 361-3339

6. *David Stinson v. Colleen Stinson*, Case No. 29-DR-2011-11.04

This case involved recurrent domestic litigation where the parties disputed child support, expenses, and numerous other issues. This case demonstrates the general contentious nature of domestic actions. To resolve this lengthy dispute, I divided the assets between the parties in the most equitable way possible. My judgment was affirmed on appeal in *Hoag v. Stinson*, 268 So.3d 66 (Ala.Civ.App. 2018).

Counsel for Plaintiff:  
James Fancher  
105 4th Street North  
Clanton, AL 35045  
(205) 530-1313.

Counsel for Defendant:  
Nick Jones  
320 N Hull Street  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
(334) 676-2133

7. *State of Alabama v. Dennis Long*, Case No. 29-CC-2018-663

In this criminal matter, Defendant Long was convicted of sexually abusing a child from the age of nine until she was eleven years old. Defendant had two prior convictions of abusing children and had been released from prison early. I sentenced him to a total of 197 years in prison.

Counsel for Prosecution:  
Caroline Blaylock  
500 2nd Ave N, #221  
Clanton, AL 35045  
(334) 567-2237

Defense Counsel:  
W. Kendrick James  
127 Cambridge Court  
Wetumpka, AL 36093

(334) 567-8787

8. *State of Alabama v. Joseph Huffman*, Case No. 04-CC-2018-98

In this criminal case, Defendant Huffman was convicted of murder after shooting and killing a man who was mowing the lawn on property where ownership was disputed between Hoffman and the victim's wife's family. After the jury's guilty verdict, I sentenced Defendant to life in prison.

Counsel for Prosecution:

Sarah Speaks  
8935 US Highway 231  
Wetumpka, AL 36092  
(334) 567-2237

Defense Counsel:

Richard White  
428 South Lawrance Street  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
(334) 269-1192

9. *State of Alabama v. Kevin Hill*, Case No. 14CC-2015-430

In this criminal case, Defendant Hill was convicted by a Chilton County jury of rape, sodomy, incest, and sexual abuse for crimes against his daughter. Throughout the trial, witnesses provided testimony that Defendant engaged in substantial physical and mental abuse of his daughter. I sentenced Defendant to consecutively serve 99 years for rape, 99 years for sodomy, 50 years for sexual abuse and 50 years for incest against his minor daughter.

Counsel for Prosecution:

Caroline Blaylock  
500 2nd Ave N, #221  
Clanton, AL 35045  
(334) 567-2237

Defense Counsel:

Jessica Burkhart  
[address unlisted]  
(256) 343-6690.

10. *Rigby v. Rigby*, Case No. 29 DR 2016-900059



This case involved parties engaged in divorce proceedings. The parties had children, two of whom had special needs. Both parties wished to have primary custody of the children. Both parents were in the medical profession and received substantial income. I found that both parties had enough income from their high-paying occupations to support children. To resolve this case, I ordered joint custody between the parents. I also ordered that the parties would alternate final decision-making authority. Flexibility in final decision-making is important in domestic cases because some parents use their decision-making authority to control the other parent, so alternating the decision-making authority provides another measure of checks-and-balances between parents. My decision was affirmed on appeal: *Rigby v. Rigby*, 268 So.3d 76 (Ala.Civ.App. 2018).

Counsel:

Judy Harrison Barganier  
120 Ringold Street  
New Orleans, LA 70124  
(334) 549-8000.

W. Kendrick James  
127 Cambridge Court  
Wetumpka, AL 36093  
(334) 567-8787

d. For each of the 10 most significant opinions you have written, provide: (1) citations for those decisions that were published; (2) a copy of those decisions that were not published; and (3) the names and contact information for the attorneys who played a significant role in the case.

1. *Cornelius v. Cornelius*, Case No. CL-2024-0739, 2025 WL 938570 (Ala. Civ. App. Mar. 28, 2025)

Counsel for Appellant:

Brett Austin Hamock  
104 South, Main St  
Boaz, AL 35957  
(256) 744-6330

Counsel for Appellee:

Bonnie Anne Peavy  
202 1/2 1st Ave East  
Oneonta, Al. 35121  
(205) 274-8537

2. *L.S.H. v. T.J.*, Case No. CL-2024-0638, 2025 WL 63485 (Ala. Civ. App. Jan. 10, 2025)

Counsel for Appellant:

Jerry Kilgo  
413 1st Ave SW  
Coleman, AL 35055  
(256) 734-2023

3. *J.M.L. v. Tuscaloosa Cnty. Dep't of Hum. Res.*, 402 So. 3d 832 (Ala. Civ. App. 2024)

Counsel for Appellant:

Nettie Cohen Blume  
2804 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Northport, AL 35476  
(205) 556-6712

Counsel for Appellee:

Elizabeth L. Hendrix  
Alabama Department of Human Resources  
P.O. Box 304000  
Montgomery, AL 36130-4000  
(334) 242-9330

4. *B.T. v. Jefferson Cnty. Dep't of Hum. Res.*, Case No. CL-2023-0944, 2024 WL 3995990 (Ala. Civ. App. Aug. 30, 2024), *cert. denied sub nom. Ex parte Jefferson Cnty. Dep't of Hum. Res.*, No. SC-2024-0598, 2024 WL 4469783 (Ala. Oct. 11, 2024)

Counsel for Appellant:

Pooja Chawla  
120 19<sup>th</sup> Street North, Suite 2015  
Birmingham, AL 35203  
(205) 757-7287

Counsel for Appellee:

Faith Perdue Twiggs  
Alabama Department of Human Resources  
P.O. Box 304000  
Montgomery, AL 36130-4000  
(334) 242-9330

5. *Whitehurst v. Whitehurst*, Case No. CL-2024-0064, 2024 WL 4395288 (Ala. Civ. App. Oct. 4, 2024)

Counsel for Appellant:

Carla Putman Maples  
302 W Alabama St  
Florence, AL 35630  
(256) 764-0588

Counsel for Appellee:  
Terry L. Mock  
401 N. Main St.  
Tuscumbia, AL 35674  
(256) 386-7090

6. *Harrison v. Marion Reg'l Nursing Home*, Case No. CL-2023-0800, 2024 WL 4311574 (Ala. Civ. App. Sept. 27, 2024)

Counsel for Appellant:  
James V. Green, Jr.  
115 1st St N  
Alabaster, AL 35007  
(205) 621-0301

Counsel for Appellee:  
Jonathan Lowe  
1210 21st St  
Haleyville, AL 35565  
(205) 486-2655

7. *Robinson v. Robinson*, Case No. CL-2024-0074, 2024 WL 4096263 (Ala. Civ. App. Sept. 6, 2024)

Counsel for Appellant:  
James V. Green, Jr.  
115 1st St N  
Alabaster, AL 35007  
(205) 621-0301

8. *White v. White*, Case No. CL-2024-0081, 2024 WL 3995991 (Ala. Civ. App. Aug. 30, 2024)

Counsel for Appellant:  
William K. Diver  
120 East Tennessee Street  
Florence, AL 35630  
(256) 766-7778

9. *Hamilton v. Hamilton*, 401 So. 3d 1186 (Ala. Civ. App. 2024)

Counsel for Appellant:  
Jacob E. N. Wade  
112 Court Square  
Evergreen, AL 36401  
(334) 578-1544

Counsel for Appellee:  
David Steele  
50 St Emanuel St  
Mobile, AL 36602  
(251) 575-4021

10. *Hernandez v. Rodriguez*, 402 So. 3d 255 (Ala. Civ. App. 2024)

Counsel for Appellant:  
Albert Osorio  
3453 Sierra Dr  
Hoover, AL 35216  
(205) 637-6188

Counsel for Appellee:  
Ann Derzis  
2450 Valleydale Rd  
Birmingham, AL 35244  
(205) 980-0965

e. Provide a list of all cases in which certiorari was requested or granted.

None.

f. Provide a brief summary of and citations for all of your opinions where your decisions were reversed by a reviewing court or where your judgment was affirmed with significant criticism of your substantive or procedural rulings. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.

1. *Shrove v. State*, 329 So. 3d 93 (Ala. Crim. App. 2020). Defendant Shrove petitioned the Circuit Court under Alabama R. Crim. P. 32 to have his 2006 conviction for soliciting a child by computer overturned. A Rule 32 petition is filed to challenge a conviction when all other post conviction remedies have been exhausted. Defendant argued that his 2006 guilty plea to soliciting a child by computer was invalid because he only communicated with an undercover officer posing as a child, not an actual child. In 2012, *Tennyson v. State*, the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals held that the pre-2009 version of §13A-6-110 criminalized soliciting an actual child, not someone merely believed to be one, and the court found that this substantive

interpretation applies retroactively. However, I denied his Rule 32 petition on procedural grounds. The Court of Criminal Appeals reversed, explaining that because *Tennyson* narrowed the statute to exclude Shrove's conduct, his conviction was for an act the law did not criminalize, and Rule 32's procedural bars did not apply. The statute at issue was repealed in 2009.

2. *Landry v. Landry*, 276 So. 3d 684 (Ala. Civ. App. 2018). Affirmed in part, reversed in part, and remanded with instructions. This litigation involved the enforcement of a prior marital dissolution agreement. In an attempt to enforce a prior order related to the couple's divorce, the former wife asked to be listed as the owner of her son's Prepaid Affordable College Tuition ("PACT") Account. The former wife's request to be listed as the owner of the parties' son's PACT account was not enforcing the June 6, 2017, judgment but instead sought to modify it. Because the trial court lost jurisdiction to amend its judgment 90 days after her motion was filed, under Rule 59.1, Ala. R. Civ. P., its October 1, 2017, order granting that relief was an improper modification and therefore a nullity. All other aspects of the judgment were affirmed.
3. *McCrory v. Cole*, 277 So. 3d 31, 38–39 (Ala. Civ. App. 2018). Affirmed in part, reversed in part, and remanded with instructions. The owners of landlocked property brought condemnation action against adjacent landowners to obtain a right-of-way to access an unpaved road. The Autauga County Probate Court entered a judgment granting the condemnation and stating that the road at issue was a public road. The adjacent landowners appealed and I ruled that *res judicata* barred their claim. The adjacent landowners appealed to the Court of Civil Appeals, which found that the McCrorys' condemnation claim could only be filed in probate court, not in the trial court, so the trial court lacked original jurisdiction over that claim. Therefore, the second element of *res judicata* was not satisfied, and the trial court erred in barring the claim on that basis. That portion of the judgment was reversed, and the case was remanded to decide whether the McCrorys are entitled to the condemnation they sought. All of other aspects of the judgment were affirmed.
4. *Autauga Creek Craft House, LLC v. Brust*, Case No. 2180300, 2020 WL 3886178 (Ala. Civ. App. July 10, 2020). Affirmed in part, reversed in part, and remanded with instructions. A carpenter sued a company, alleging that the company did not fully compensate him for his services. The carpenter raised claims of breach of contract, account stated, and quantum meruit and asked for attorney's fees. I entered judgment for the plaintiff carpenter but denied his request for attorney's fees. The Court of Civil Appeals reversed my judgment for failing to award attorney's fees while relying on the Prompt Pay Act in awarding damages. All other aspects of the judgment were affirmed.
5. *Grantham v. Grantham-Potts*, 369 So. 3d 672 (Ala. Civ. App. 2022). Affirmed in part, reversed in part, and remanded with instructions. In a domestic dispute case, a father petitioned to modify child custody rights and a mother counter-petitioned to modify the father's required child support. I denied the father's petition and granted the mother's petition. The Court of Civil Appeals reversed and remanded the part of

my decision for failing to clarify to them how I reached the child support amount assessed. All of other aspects of the judgment were affirmed.

6. *Stewart v. Sutton*, 383 So. 3d 685 (Ala. Civ. App. 2023). Affirmed in part, reversed in part, and remanded with instructions. Formerly married parties brought this action to modify existing divorce judgment. The father sought to modify a provision that required him to pay half of his child's postsecondary education expenses while the mother counterclaimed, seeking to hold the father in contempt of court for failure to reimburse the mother for the child's education expenses. I denied the father's petition to modify, held him in contempt of court, and awarded the mother \$16,324.62 in unreimbursed educational expenses. The Court of Civil Appeals reversed my judgment for failing to itemize how I came to the final amount assessed against the father for contempt. All other aspects of the judgment were affirmed.
7. *Fraiser v. Nahrstedt*, No. CL-2024-0220, 2025 WL 728658, at \*14 (Ala. Civ. App. Mar. 7, 2025). Affirmed in part, reversed in part, and remanded with instructions. In a family law case, the appellate court reversed my amended judgment, holding that I was required to deduct certain expenses from father's gross receipts when calculating his monthly gross income. These deductions affected the calculation for required retroactive child support.

g. Provide a description of the number and percentage of your decisions in which you issued an unpublished opinion and the manner in which those unpublished opinions are filed and/or stored.

Approximately 57% of the cases we released on the Court of Civil Appeals are affirmed by unpublished memorandum. The unpublished memoranda are released to the parties and maintained by the Clerk; however, they are not published in a Reporter.

h. Provide citations for significant opinions on federal or state constitutional issues, together with the citation to appellate court rulings on such opinions. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.

*J.M.L. v. Tuscaloosa Cnty. Dep't of Hum. Res.*, 402 So. 3d 832 (Ala. Civ. App. 2024)

This opinion overturned Alabama Court of Civil Appeals precedent by ruling that arguments involving due process must be raised at the trial court level to be addressed on appeal. Before this opinion, the Court of Civil Appeals raised the issue *sua sponte* if no argument was made.

i. Provide citations to all cases in which you sat by designation on a federal court of appeals, including a brief summary of any opinions you authored, whether majority, dissenting, or concurring, and any dissenting opinions you joined.

None.

14. **Recusal:** If you are or have been a judge, identify the basis by which you have assessed

the necessity or propriety of recusal (If your court employs an "automatic" recusal system by which you may be recused without your knowledge, please include a general description of that system.) Provide a list of any cases, motions or matters that have come before you in which a litigant or party has requested that you recuse yourself due to an asserted conflict of interest or in which you have recused yourself sua sponte. Identify each such case, and for each provide the following information:

- a. whether your recusal was requested by a motion or other suggestion by a litigant or a party to the proceeding or by any other person or interested party; or if you recused yourself sua sponte;
- b. a brief description of the asserted conflict of interest or other ground for recusal;
- c. the procedure you followed in determining whether or not to recuse yourself;
- d. your reason for recusing or declining to recuse yourself, including any action taken to remove the real, apparent or asserted conflict of interest or to cure any other ground for recusal.

Our Court has an automatic recusal system. I have informed them that I must recuse from anything involving the University of South Alabama because of my trustee status. I also am currently recusing from any case from the lower courts in which I had direct involvement in the case.

*Ex parte Roberts*, Case No. SC-2024-0804, 2025 WL 1776254 (Ala. June 27, 2025). This is an Alabama Supreme Court case and I recused due to being on a board of trustees – this case involved Auburn University Board of Trustees. I recused sua sponte.

*Ex parte Gartrell*, Case No. SC-2024-0743, 2025 WL 1776392 (Ala. June 27, 2025). I recused from this because I voted and wrote on this case in the Court of Civil Appeals before being elevated to the Alabama Supreme Court. I recused sua sponte.

*Canaan Land Ministries v. Jones*, Case No. CL-2024-0677, 2025 WL 1085235 (Ala. Civ. App. Apr. 11, 2025). This case originated in Autauga County and I had contact with it as a Circuit Judge of Autauga County. I recused sua sponte.

*Chapman v. Chapman*, Case No. CL-2023-0485, 2025 WL 939201 (Ala. Civ. App. Mar. 28, 2025). I handled this case as Chilton County Circuit Judge. I recused sua sponte.

*Fraiser v. Nahrstedt*, Case No. CL-2024-0220, 2025 WL 728658 (Ala. Civ. App. Mar. 7, 2025). I handled this case as an Elmore County Circuit Judge. I recused sua sponte.

*Pinson v. Chilton Cnty. Bd. of Educ.*, Case No. CL-2024-0228, 2025 WL 495918 (Ala. Civ. App. Feb. 14, 2025). This case originated in Chilton County and I had contact with the parties as a Chilton County Circuit Judge. I recused sua sponte.

*Merrick v. Merrick*, Case No. CL-2023-0924, 2024 WL 5100655 (Ala. Civ. App. Dec. 13, 2024). I had direct contact with this case as Autauga County Circuit Judge. I recused sua sponte.

*Ex parte Opp Health & Rehab., LLC*, No. SC-2024-0266, 2025 WL 1479640, at \*1 (Ala. May 23, 2025). The Alabama Supreme Court granted certiorari on the judgment from the Court of Civil Appeals. I recused because I was informed that I voted on the matter when I was a judge on the Court of Civil Appeals, however, after the decision was released I learned that the Court of Civil Appeals opinion was released shortly before I was appointed to the court.

15. **Public Office, Political Activities and Affiliations:**

a. List chronologically any public offices you have held, other than judicial offices, including the terms of service and whether such positions were elected or appointed. If appointed, please include the name of the individual who appointed you. Also, state chronologically any unsuccessful candidacies you have had for elective office or unsuccessful nominations for appointed office.

Trustee, University of South Alabama, appointed in 2022 by Governor Kay Ivey to fill the remaining term of Ken Simon. In 2025, I was reappointed by Governor Ivey to a full term, which concludes in 2031.

b. List all memberships and offices held in and services rendered, whether compensated or not, to any political party or election committee. If you have ever held a position or played a role in a political campaign, identify the particulars of the campaign, including the candidate, dates of the campaign, your title and responsibilities.

Since 2006, I have served as a member of the Elmore County Republican Party Executive Committee. I have served as Chairman since 2018.

Since 2008, I have served on the Alabama Republican Party Executive Committee.

From 2013 to 2015, I served on the Montgomery Minority GOP.

16. **Legal Career:** Answer each part separately.

a. Describe chronologically your law practice and legal experience after graduation from law school including:

i. whether you served as clerk to a judge, and if so, the name of the judge, the court and the dates of the period you were a clerk;

From August 2003 to December 2003. I served as a law clerk for



the, Honorable John B. Bush of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit. The job was eliminated in December 2003 due to state judiciary funding cuts.

- ii. whether you practiced alone, and if so, the addresses and dates;

I was a solo practitioner from June 2006 to approximately May 2008 and from 2011 to 2016. All solo practice was done at the Law Office of Bill Lewis, 1007 Jackson Trace Road, Wetumpka, Alabama, 36092. This firm later was renamed to the Lewis Law Firm.

- iii. the dates, names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies or governmental agencies with which you have been affiliated, and the nature of your affiliation with each;

2004 – 2005  
Nineteenth Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office  
8935 U.S. Highway 231  
Wetumpka, Alabama 36092

2005 – 2006  
Law Office of Jeff Courtney  
1881 Holtville Road  
Wetumpka, Alabama 36092  
Associate Attorney

2006 – 2016  
Law Office of Bill Lewis  
1007 Jackson Trace Road  
Wetumpka, Alabama 36092  
General/Solo Practitioner

- iv. whether you served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings and, if so, a description of the 10 most significant matters with which you were involved in that capacity.

In 2016, I was a mediator for three family law cases before I was appointed to the circuit court bench. I resolved all three family law cases. The primarily disputed issues were child custody and asset distribution.

b. Describe:

- i. the general character of your law practice and indicate by date

when its character has changed over the years.

As an Assistant District Attorney, I was an employee of the state and my client was the state of Alabama. After leaving the D.A.'s office in late 2005, I went to a small firm and became a general practitioner. After eight months in a small law firm, I secured criminal defense and juvenile contracts with Elmore County. Those contracts enabled me to found my own law firm. I became a solo practitioner. As a solo practitioner, I initially handled criminal defense and family law cases. As my practice grew, I began to represent clients in civil litigation, on both the plaintiff and defense sides. I also handled bankruptcy cases. In 2011, I began handling criminal defense cases primarily in federal court.

- ii. your typical clients and the areas at each period of your legal career, if any, in which you have specialized.

Early in my legal career as a contract and appointed public defender, I handled misdemeanor and lower-class felony cases. I also handled domestic cases. While operating my solo practice from 2006 until 2016, I was retained or appointed on major felony or capital cases. Beginning in 2014, my practice shifted to civil litigation in federal courts.

- c. Describe the percentage of your practice that has been in litigation and whether you appeared in court frequently, occasionally, or not at all. If the frequency of your appearances in court varied, describe such variance, providing dates.

Since the beginning of my career, I frequently appeared in court, litigating a variety of cases. As a practicing attorney, I tried over approximately 1000 cases. From 2004 to 2010, I primarily tried and handled criminal and family law cases, in addition to some federal civil lawsuits. From approximately 2010 to 2016, my criminal practice shifted to federal courts, while maintaining my state criminal practice. From 2009 to 2012, I practiced bankruptcy law in addition to my criminal practice. Beginning in 2012, I added more civil litigation to my criminal defense work. After 2014, my practice began to shift to civil litigation.

- i. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

- |    |                          |     |
|----|--------------------------|-----|
| 1. | federal courts:          | 35% |
| 2. | state courts of record:  | 50% |
| 3. | other courts:            | 10% |
| 4. | administrative agencies: | 5%  |

- ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

1. civil proceedings: 40%
2. criminal proceedings: 60%

d. State the number of cases in courts of record, including cases before administrative law judges, you tried to verdict, judgment or final decision (rather than settled), indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

I have tried approximately 1000 cases to verdict. I was sole counsel in all but approximately 20 cases. I tried bench trials in circuit, district, municipal, juvenile dependency, and juvenile delinquency courts. Being the public defender in district court, juvenile delinquency court, and juvenile court, as well as being a contract public defender in circuit court and beginning my career as a prosecutor contributed to my high trial rate. I also had a large domestic caseload, and those cases had a high litigation rate. I tried 15 to 20 jury trials and bench trials in circuit court as well.

i. What percentage of these trials were:

1. jury: 5%
2. non-jury: 95%

e. Describe your practice, if any, before the Supreme Court of the United States. Supply copies of any briefs, amicus or otherwise, and, if applicable, any oral argument transcripts before the Supreme Court in connection with your practice.

I have not practiced in the Supreme Court of the United States.

17. **Litigation:** Describe the ten (10) most significant litigated matters which you personally handled, whether or not you were the attorney of record. Give the citations, if the cases were reported, and the docket number and date if unreported. Give a capsule summary of the substance of each case. Identify the party or parties whom you represented; describe in detail the nature of your participation in the litigation and the final disposition of the case. Also state as to each case:

- a. the date of representation;
- b. the name of the court and the name of the judge or judges before whom the case was litigated; and
- c. the individual name, addresses, and telephone numbers of co-counsel and of principal counsel for each of the other parties.

1. *State v. Charlie Washington*, , Case No. 29CC03-186; CR03-1063. Elmore County Circuit Court, Honorable John Bush presiding.  
Mr. Washington was convicted of burglarizing and murdering an elderly couple for whom he had previously done maintenance work. I served as assistant prosecutor/ law clerk from 2003 to 2004. This was one of the first major cases I assisted with

after joining the District Attorney's office. As a clerk, I supported the prosecution team in all aspects of the case outside of direct courtroom examination. The case resulted in one of the office's early capital murder convictions in which the jury recommended—and the court imposed—the death penalty.

Co-Counsel:  
Sam Partridge (Deceased)

Opposing Counsel:  
Wayne Perdue (Deceased)

W. Kendrick James  
127 Cambridge Court  
Wetumpka, AL 36093  
(334) 567-8787

2. *State of Alabama v. Michael Stamper*, Case No. 29-CC-2003-325. Circuit Court of Elmore County, Honorable Sibley Reynolds presiding.

Kenneth Miller, a known drug dealer, was killed at his home in Millbrook Alabama; for two years his killer was unknown. Eventually, the police received a tip through a jail inmate that Michael Stamper was bragging about committing the "perfect murder." Until the tip was received, the case had been deemed a "cold case."

I served as associate counsel from May 2004 to September 2004. To prepare for trial I had to interview many people associated with a drug criminal subculture and had to go throughout the state to find and interview witnesses, whom included drug dealers, prostitutes, and other felons. We obtained a conviction and Mr. Stamper was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Lead Counsel:  
Sam Partridge (deceased)

Defense Counsel:  
Dawson Wayne Perdue (deceased).

3. *State v. McMillan*, Case No. 29CC 2006- 476. Elmore County Circuit Court, Honorable John Bush Presiding.

Mr. McMillan was charged with capital murder for fatally shooting a man during a truck robbery at Wal-Mart, an incident captured on video that drew widespread attention in the state. The victim, a young father, had just attended a Montgomery Biscuits baseball game and was stopping to buy diapers. Despite conflicting eyewitness accounts, the video evidence led to a conviction.

I served as lead defense counsel from 2006 to 2009. As defense counsel, I presented extensive mitigation evidence showing Mr. McMillan's traumatic upbringing—abandoned by his father, abused by his mother and her boyfriends, and repeatedly failed by the child welfare system. The jury recommended life without parole (7–4), but the presiding judge overrode the recommendation and imposed the death penalty. The case raised the constitutional issue of whether judicial override violates the Eighth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Co-Counsel:

W. Kendrick James  
127 Cambridge Court  
Wetumpka, AL 36093  
(334) 567-8787

Opposing Counsel:

James Houts  
300 Dexter Avenue  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
(334) 242-7300

4. *Charles Roberts v. City of Calera et. al.*, Case No. 2:2007 CV 00415; 2007 WL 2252206. U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, Honorable Karen Bowdre presiding.

Charles Roberts was arrested in Calera, Alabama, during a traffic stop while riding as a passenger. The officer detained all occupants, ran Mr. Roberts's record, and arrested him for not possessing a felon identification card. However, under the law at the time, only individuals with two or more felony convictions were required to possess a felon identification card, and Mr. Roberts had only one felony conviction. Mr. Roberts was jailed for three days before release on bond.

I served as plaintiff's counsel in 2007. As defense counsel, I successfully moved for dismissal of the criminal case due to the unlawful arrest. After Mr. Roberts's release, we filed a civil rights suit in the Northern District of Alabama under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, citing unlawful incarceration and physical abuse by law enforcement. Following discovery, the City of Calera agreed to pay a substantial settlement. The case also helped expose a pattern of misconduct by the arresting officer, who later faced additional lawsuits.

Opposing Counsel:

Timothy P. Donahue  
2044 Magnolia Ridge  
Vestavia, AL 35234  
(205) 531-8331

5. *State v. Travonte Keon Butler*, Case No. 29-CC-2009-514. Circuit Court of Elmore County, Honorable John Bush presiding.

I served as defense counsel from 2009–2011. Mr. Butler was charged with capital murder for killing a man during a drug robbery. Mr. Butler was charged along with a co-defendant, Antonio Jerido. Both men claimed that the other went down the hill where the victim was and both claimed the other co-defendant committed the murder. After vigorous litigation, our client entered a plea deal for a lesser included charge and a reduced sentence in exchange for proffer and testimony against the co-defendant.

Co-Counsel:  
W. Kendrick James  
127 Cambridge Court  
Wetumpka, AL 36093  
(334) 567-8787

Counsel for Prosecution:  
Lee Rankin  
4848 Main Street  
Millbrook, AL 36054  
(334) 472-1098

6. *Lucille Smith v. Southern Foods*, Case No. 29-CV-2010-358. Circuit Court of Elmore County, Honorable John Bush presiding.

I served as counsel for Plaintiff from 2009– 2016. Plaintiff Lucille Smith fell at a Food World in Millbrook and suffered injuries. On Smith's behalf, I filed suit against Food World. During the pendency of the suit, Food World filed for Chapter 13 Bankruptcy. Despite the bankruptcy, I negotiated an adequate settlement for my client.

Opposing Counsel:  
John Elrod  
Terminus 200  
333 Piedmont Road, Suite 2500  
Atlanta, GA 30305  
(678) 553-2259

Bankruptcy Trustee:  
William S. Kaye  
[contact information unavailable].

7. *State v. Bernard Nix*, Case No. 29-CC-2012-265. Elmore County Circuit Court, Honorable Sibley Reynolds presiding.

I served as defense counsel from 2010–2012. Mr. Nix was charged with Capital Murder. Nix and Codefendant 1 went to the victim's house at the direction of Codefendant 2. Codefendant 1 wielded an assault rifle loaded by Nix, and shot into the house numerous times injuring a victim and killing a child. After extensive litigation and investigation into the Defendant's background, my client received a reduced sentence as a result of a plea agreement.

Co-Counsel:

W. Kendrick James  
127 Cambridge Court  
Wetumpka, AL 36093  
(334) 567-8787

Opposing Counsel:

Kristy Peoples  
1801 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
Birmingham, AL  
(205) 244-200

8. *Caspari v. State of Alabama*, 171 So. 3d 52 (Ala. Civ. App. 2015). Alabama Court of Civil Appeals.

I served as counsel for Appellant from 2012–2015. I represented Mr. Caspari in both a capital murder case and a related civil forfeiture action in which the State sought to condemn \$21,600.00 seized from Caspari without a stated purpose. The State failed to notify me of the forfeiture filing until the day they moved for default judgment. I filed a timely answer the same day, but the court entered default two days later, claiming Caspari had failed to respond—despite improper service, which merely involved dropping the summons at the prison door. My motion to set aside the default was denied, and the funds were distributed even after I asked for a stay pending (mandamus) appeal. On appeal, the Attorney General's Office conceded that service was improper, and the Court of Civil Appeals reversed and remanded.

Co-Counsel:

Thomas Goggans  
2030 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Montgomery, AL 36106  
(334) 834-2511

Opposing Counsel:

John McGavock Porter  
123 East Laurel Street  
Scottsboro, AL 35768  
(256) 567-5156

9. *State of Alabama v. Frank Bertarelli*, Case No. 29-DC-2012-1867. District Court of Elmore County, Honorable James Glenn Goggans presiding.

I served as Defendant's trial attorney from June 23, 2012–August 14, 2012. Mr. Bertarelli was. the case received extensive publicity. Mr. Bertarelli, a well-known business owner, community member, and candidate for the Wetumpka City Council, was charged with assault for punching the alleged victim in the victim's driveway. At the time of the incident, Mr. Bertarelli was on the alleged victim's property. At trial, we introduced character evidence of the alleged victim to prove Mr. Bertarelli's state of mind during the confrontation. Mr. Bertarelli was acquitted of the charges.

Opposing counsel:

James D. Cowell  
215 Centerview Drive, Suite 200  
Brentwood, TN  
(615) 567-3040

10. *United States v. Andrew Salery*, 163 F.Supp.3d 1215; Case No. 16-10570. Middle District of Alabama, Honorable Myron Thompson presiding.

I served as defense counsel during 2016. Mr. Salery was arrested for possession with intent to distribute and three counts of felon in possession of a firearm for three separate incidents. Mr. Salery was facing 20 years in prison for these charges. I assumed representation of him after his initial attorney was permitted to withdraw due to a breakdown of the client-attorney relationship. Mr. Salery's case involved a question about the applicability of a federal sentence enhancement provision due to Mr. Salery's possession of weapons. I advocated for Mr. Salery and worked out a plea agreement that capped his sentence at ten years and gave me the ability to argue for downward departures and variances in his sentence. At sentencing, I argued that the weapons possession enhancement did not apply because the statute applies to each incident separately. The Court agreed and sentenced Mr. Salery to seven and a half years in prison.

U.S. Attorney:

Kevin P. Davidson  
131 Clayton Street  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
(334) 223-7280

18. **Legal Activities:** Describe the most significant legal activities you have pursued, including significant litigation which did not progress to trial or legal matters that did not involve litigation. Describe fully the nature of your participation in these activities. List any client(s) or organization(s) for whom you performed lobbying activities and describe the lobbying activities you performed on behalf of such client(s) or organizations(s). (Note: As to any facts requested in this question, please omit any information protected by the attorney-client privilege.)



I am very active with the local bar associations in my circuit. I created events called Law Days in Elmore and Chilton counties. Law Day brings all second-grade students from the county to the courthouse for an interactive introduction to the judicial system. The highlight is a mock trial, where students see the court process come to life. We also partner with child advocacy organizations and law enforcement agencies, who provide additional presentations and activities to help students learn about the role of the legal system in keeping communities safe. While on the Alabama Court of Civil Appeals I participated in a statewide Law Day, where we talked about the judicial branch of government by zoom to areas throughout the state that did not have attorneys available to give in class presentations.

While I was in private practice, we also launched a community service initiative through the bar, offering educational sessions on estate planning. We raised funds to give to various civic organizations to further community outreach.

I have not performed any lobbying activities in any manner.

19. **Teaching:** What courses have you taught? For each course, state the title, the institution at which you taught the course, the years in which you taught the course, and describe briefly the subject matter of the course and the major topics taught. If you have a syllabus of each course, provide copies to the committee.

None.

20. **Deferred Income/ Future Benefits:** List the sources, amounts and dates of all anticipated receipts from deferred income arrangements, stock, options, uncompleted contracts and other future benefits which you expect to derive from previous business relationships, professional services, firm memberships, former employers, clients or customers. Describe the arrangements you have made to be compensated in the future for any financial or business interest.

Because of my state government service, I have an Alabama employee pension account and a deferred compensation account.

21. **Outside Commitments During Court Service:** Do you have any plans, commitments, or agreements to pursue outside employment, with or without compensation, during your service with the court? If so, explain.

None.

22. **Sources of Income:** List sources and amounts of all income received during the calendar year preceding your nomination and for the current calendar year, including all salaries, fees, dividends, interest, gifts, rents, royalties, licensing fees, honoraria, and other items exceeding \$500 or more (if you prefer to do so, copies of the financial disclosure report, required by the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, may be substituted here).

When my nomination is formally submitted to the Senate, I will file my mandated Financial Disclosure Report and supply a copy to this committee.

23. **Statement of Net Worth:** Please complete the attached financial net worth statement in detail (add schedules as called for).

See attached Net Worth Statement.

24. **Potential Conflicts of Interest:**

a. Identify the family members or other persons, parties, categories of litigation, and financial arrangements that are likely to present potential conflicts-of-interest when you first assume the position to which you have been nominated. Explain how you would address any such conflict if it were to arise.

I am not aware of any potential conflicts I would have as a District Judge at this time. In the event a family member was subjected to the jurisdiction of the Court I would recuse. I would also recuse from any litigation involving any organization or board I was involved with, however there is not any pending or upcoming litigation that I am aware of that would be subject to recusal.

I would have to evaluate that and other potential conflicts on a case-by-case basis according to the requirements of 28 U.S.C. § 455, the principles of the Code of Conduct for United States Judges, and any other applicable ethical or legal rules or principles. I will evaluate any other real or potential conflict, or relationship that could give rise to an appearance of a conflict, on a case-by-case basis and determine appropriate action with the advice of parties and their counsel, including recusal where necessary.

b. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including the procedure you will follow in determining these areas of concern.

If confirmed, I will carefully review and address any real or potential conflicts by reference to 28 U.S.C. § 455, Canon 3 of the Code of Conduct for United States Judges, and any and all other laws, rules, and practices governing such circumstances.

25. **Pro Bono Work:** An ethical consideration under Canon 2 of the American Bar Association's Code of Professional Responsibility calls for "every lawyer, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, to find some time to participate in serving the disadvantaged." Describe what you have done to fulfill these responsibilities, listing specific instances and the amount of time devoted to each.

As an attorney, I volunteered to represent criminal defendants in criminal court on numerous occasions outside of my contractual obligations. From 2006 until 2016, I generally represented a minimum of five to six clients at each criminal docket on a pro bono basis. I estimate that I provided representation in those instances at least eight times per month. I also represented parents as counsel in confidential juvenile cases on multiple occasions.

26. **Selection Process:**

a. Please describe your experience in the entire judicial selection process, from beginning to end (including the circumstances which led to your nomination and the interviews in which you participated). Is there a selection commission in your jurisdiction to recommend candidates for nomination to the federal courts? If so, please include that process in your description, as well as whether the commission recommended your nomination. List the dates of all interviews or communications you had with the White House staff or the Justice Department regarding this nomination. Do not include any contacts with Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel concerning your nomination.

In August 2024, I spoke with both Senators Tommy Tuberville and Katie Britt and expressed my interest in upcoming vacancies on the federal courts. In late November 2024, I contacted both Senator Tuberville's and Senator Britt's offices to express my interest in the vacancy on the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Alabama. In March 2025, I sent an application to the offices of both Senators. On April 7, 2025, I interviewed with the chief counsels for both Senators. On April 30, 2025, I interviewed with both Senators. In May 2025, I was notified that the Senators would be submitting my name to the President for consideration. On June 2, 2025, I updated my application with both Senators to inform them that I had been appointed to the Alabama Supreme Court. They forwarded my updated application to the White House.

On June 26, 2025, I interviewed with the members of the White House Counsel's Office. On July 24, 2025, I was contacted my White House Counsel's Office and the U.S. Department of Justice to inform me that I would begin the vetting and background check process.


b. Has anyone involved in the process of selecting you as a judicial nominee discussed with you any currently pending or specific case, legal issue or question in a manner that could reasonably be interpreted as seeking any express or implied assurances concerning your position on such case, issue, or question? If so, explain fully.

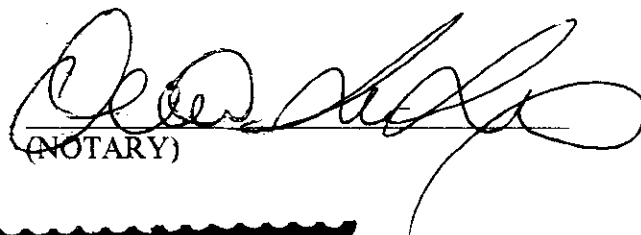
No.

AFFIDAVIT

I, Bill Lewis, do swear that the information provided in this statement is, to the best of my knowledge, true and accurate.

July 31, 2025  
(DATE)

  
(NAME)

  
(NOTARY)

